

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 11023 231412Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----003125 231419Z /45
O 231322Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE IMMEDIATE 0121
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 11023

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM LEWIS

CAIRO FOR AMBASSADOR EILTS AND ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, EG, US, IS
SUBJECT: BEGIN'S REVISED DRAFT FOR A DECLARATION

1. I SAW DAYAN THIS MORNING, DECEMBER 23, FOR LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF PROSPECTS FOR BEGIN-SADAT MEETING. (DETAILS REPORTED IN SEPTTEL.) HE TOLD ME AT OUTSET THAT BEGIN HAD SENT YOU LAST NIGHT VIA DINITZ HIS REVISED DRAFT OF AN "EGYPTION-ISRAELI DECLARATION," WHICH HE WILL BE TAKING TO ISMAILIA TO DISCUSS WITH SADAT. THIS REVISED TEXT, ACCORDING TO DAYAN, WAS APPROVED IN YESTERDAY'S CABINET MEETING AND REPRESENTS BEGIN'S EFFORT TO MEET SOME OF THE CRITICISM VOICED BY PRESIDENT CARTER AND YOU ON HIS EARLIER DRAFT EFFORT.

2. DAYAN SAID DINITZ HAD REPORTED THAT YOU THOUGHT THE REFERENCE TO "WITHDRAWALS" WOULD BE HELPFUL. HE DID NOT SAY WHAT YOUR OTHER REACTIONS MAY HAVE BEEN.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TEL AV 11023 231412Z

IN LIGHT OF FACT THAT YOU HAD APPARENTLY HAD DIRECT CONVERSATION WITH DINITZ ON THIS TEXT, I DID NOT MAKE ANY EFFORT TO PROMOTE THE ALTERNATIVE VERSIONS "B," AND "C," WHICH WE HAD DEvised IN WASHINGTON AND WHICH YOU HAD AUTHORIZED ME TO USE IN DISCUSSIONS HERE.
3. I CONFINED MY REMARKS TO DAYAN TO SAYING THAT I COULD SEE SOME POSSIBILITIES IN THIS TEXT, BUT DOUBTED

THAT IT WOULD MEET SADAT'S REQUIREMENTS AND HOPED THAT BEGIN WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS ALTERNATE FORMULATIONS WITH SADAT DURING THIER MEETING. I SUGGESTED THEY THINK ABOUT ADDING TO THE END OF THE FINAL SENTENCE AN ADDITIONAL CLAUSE WHICH WOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT THE SELF-RULE ARRANGEMENT FOR JUDEA, SAMARIA, AND THE GAZA DISTRICT WOULD BE TRANSITIONAL PENDING A PERMANENT SOLUTION FOR THIS REGION. I SAID THAT I THOUGHT THIS WAS CONSISTENT WITH THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW PROVISION CONTAINED IN THE ISRAELI WORKING PAPER, AND MIGHT CONCEIVABLY HELP TO MAKE THE DRAFT MORE ACCEPTABLE TO SADAT AND ATTRACTIVE TO HUSSEIN. DAYAN SAID HE TOOK THE POINT AND THEY MIGHT INDEED BE PREPARED TO MAKE SUCH AN ADDITION IF SADAT REQUESTED IT.

4. IF YOU WISH ME TO DO ANYTHING FURTHER WITH DAYAN OR BEBIN ABOUT THIS TEXT BEFORE SUNDAY, PLEASE GIVE ME IMMEDIATE INSTRUCTIONS. MY OWN FEELING IS THAT WE WOULD BE BETTER OFF NOW TO LEAVE THE ISSUE TO SADAT AND BEING TO TRY TO THRASH OUT DIRECTLY AT THEIR MEETING.

5. TEXT OF BEGIN'S DRAFT AS APPROVED BY THE CABINET FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT: FOLLOWING THE HISTORIC EVENTS IN THE M.E.--THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT SADAT TO JERUSALEM AND THE RECEPTION ACCORDED TO HIM BY THE PEOPLE, THE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 TEL AV 11023 231412Z

PARLIAMENT AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL--THE GOVERNMENTS OF EGYPT AND OF ISRAEL ARE DETERMINED TO CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO REACH A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE REGION. AS PART OF SUCH A SETTLEMENT, THEY WILL NEGOTIATE PEACE TREATIES ON THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLES ENVISAGED IN SECURITY COUNCIL 242 AND 338. WITHDRAWALS OF ISRAELI ARMED FORCES FROM TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN THE CONFLICT OF JUNE 1967, DETERMINATION OF SECURE AND RECOGNIZED BOUNDARIES WITHIN WHICH ALL NATIONS IN THE M.E. WILL LIVE IN PEACE FREE FROM THREATS AND ACTS OF FORCE. THE PALESTINIAN ARABS, RESIDENTS OF JUDEA, SAMARIA, AND THE GAZA DISTRICT WILL ENJOY SELF-RULE. END TEXT
LEWIS

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